

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 272205

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY DOD:MHAMILTON:AF/C:EMARKS:GJB

APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE

AF/C:TRBUCHANAN

PM/SAS:SWINSHIP (INFORMED)

ISA/NA:MR. REED

DASD/NEASA:MR. JANKA

DSAA:LTG FISH

JOINT STAFF:VADM HANNIFIN

ASD/ISA:MR.MCAULIFFE

----- 101374

O 050026Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 272205

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, MASS

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ZAIRE

1 SECRETARIES KISSINGER AND RUMSFELD HAVE DISCUSSED ALTERNATIVES AVAILABLE FOR SCOPE AND TIMING OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ZAIRE AND AGREED TO PURSUE APPROACH DESCRIBED BELOW.

2. THE DOD IS TO TRANSMIT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ZAIRE'S CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION, TO STATE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. IN VIEW OF THE LOW-LEVEL THREAT TO ZAIRE'S SECURITY AND THE ZAIRIANS' CAPABILITY TO ABSORB MODERN EQUIPMENT DOD PROPOSES:

A. AN IMPACT GROUND FORCE UPGRADE PACKAGE CONSISTING OF EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING FOR AN ARMORED CAR

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CAVALRY SQUADRON TO BE DELIVERED DURING THE 24 MONTHS

FOLLOWING ACCEPTANCE OF THE LETTER OF OFFER (LOA).  
THIS PACKAGE WILL BE SOUND BUILDING-BLOCK FOR FORCE  
MODERNIZATION.

B. A COMPREHENSIVE MANPOWER, TRAINING, AND LOGISTIC

SURVEY IN THE NEAR FUTURE AFTER WHICH SPECIFIC DETAILS  
OF THE FORCE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM FOR ZAI E WOULD  
BE DEVELOPED. FOR EXAMPLE, TIMING OF DELIVERY OF  
TRACKED VEHICLES AND HELICOPTERS WOULD BE CONTINGENT  
UPON THE FINDINGS OF THIS SURVEY.

C. TRAINING AND EQUIPPING OF A REINFORCED  
MECHANIZED INFANTRY DIVISION OVER A 12 TO 15-YEAR  
PERIOD.

D. NO DIVERSIONS OF EQUIPMENT FROM US STOCKS  
OR PLANNED US EQUIPMENT ACQUISITIONS.

3. PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FORCE MODERNIZATION  
PROGRAM, THE USG MUST RESOLVE HOW FUTURE SECURITY  
ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE WILL BE FUNDED. STATE AND DOD  
SUPPORT REINSTITUTION OF A GRANT MATERIEL PROGRAM  
FOR ZAIRE BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 1978 OR SOME OTHER  
SOURCE OF FINANCING WITH CONCESSIONARY ARRANGEMENTS  
OR FORGIVENESS, AS NECESSARY, FOR THE EQUIPMENT AND  
TRAINING. CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF RENEWED GRANT  
PROGRAM IS UNCERTAIN. THE FMS CREDIT FOR FY 77 AND FY 77  
IS SUFFICIENT TO FUND THE GROUND FORCE UPGRADE PACKAGE  
AND THE 5 MILLION DOLLARS REQUIRED FOR THE ONGOING  
C-130 PROGRAM.

4. IN LIGHT OF POLITICAL NECESSITY TO BE FORTHCOMING  
TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S CONCERNS AND EXPECTATIONS BEYOND  
THE UPGRADE PACKAGE, STATE AND DOD HAVE AGREED THAT WHEN  
STATE OBTAINS AGREEMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT(S) CONCERNED,  
DOD WILL ACCELERATE DELIVERY OF 10 M60A1 TANKS AND  
ONE TANK RETRIEVER (BUT NOT HELICOPTERS OR MORE TANKS)  
BY DIVERSION FROM OTHER FMS CUSTOMERS OR THIRD COUNTRY  
TRANSFERS. INITIAL CONTACTS WITH TH: GOVERNMENT OF IRAN  
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SUPPORT POSSIBILITY OF IRAN AS A THIRD COUNTRY SOURCE.  
MINIMUM ESSENTIAL TANK TRAINING COULD BE ACCELERATED  
THROUGH MOBILE TRAINING TEAMS (MTTS). TRAINING TO  
SUSTAIN EQUIPMENT MUST BE THROUGH SCHOOL SYSTEM OR  
CIVILIAN CONTRACT TRAINING.

5. IN GENERAL TERMS, AGREED PROGRAM PROPOSAL (GROUND  
FORCE UPGRADE PACKAGE PLUS TANKS) FOR GOZ WILL PROVIDE

DELIVERY OF ARMORED CAR SQUADRON AND ASSOCIATED TOWED ARTILLERY WITHIN EIGHTEEN MONTHS (WITH FIRST ARMORED CARS IN APPROXIMATELY EIGHT MONTHS), DELIVERY OF FIRST TANK PLATOON (3 TANKS PLUS RETRIEVER) IN TWELVE MONTHS, REST OF TANK COMPANY (7 TANKS) IN 24 MONTHS. DELIVERY SCHEDULE BEGINS WITH ACCEPTANCE AND FUNDING OF LOA. ADDITIONAL TOWED ARTILLERY PLUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS DURING REMAINDER OF FIVE-YEAR PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD WILL BE CONSIDERED UPON COMPLETION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY, PARA 2B, ABOVE. ASSOCIATED TRAINING AND POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT ARE ADDRESSED BY FULL ROCKWELL REPORT WHICH WILL CONCENTRATE ON INITIAL GROUND FORCE UPGRADE PACKAGE BUT FOR PLANNING PURPOSES WILL ALSO INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF LONGER TERM PROGRAM. THE JCS CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT A COMPREHENSIVE MANPOWER, TRAINING AND LOGISTICAL SURVEY BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO FINALIZATION OF SPECIFIC DETAILS OF THE LONG TERM MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.

6. GENERAL ROCKWELL IS PREPARED TO BE IN ZAIRE ON 18 AND 19 NOVEMBER TO PRESENT AND EXPLAIN PROPOSED MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO GOZ. PLEASE ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF THIS SCHEDULE IS ACCEPTABLE TO GOZ.

7. WE ARE ALSO CONSIDERING INITIATING TALKS IN PARIS AND BRUSSELS ON COORDINATION OF MILITARY AID TO ZAIRE. IN ANTICIPATION THESE TALKS, MISSION REQUESTED REVIEW AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON FRENCH AND BELGIAN PROGRAMS WITH EYE TOWARD OBTAINING BETTER COMPLEMENTARITY. DO NOT REPEAT NOT RAISE SUBJECT WITH YOUR FRENCH AND BELGIAN COLLEAGUES UNTIL INSTRUCTED. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS ADDED PER S/S-O - MR. STEINER.

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY AF/C:MFGALLAGHER:MG

APPROVED BY AF/C:TRBUCHANAN

S/S:

----- 021713

P 270145Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 272205

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 272205 ACTION KINSHASA 05 NOV 76

QUOTE

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EXDIS

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UNQUOTE ROBINSON.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE272205  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MHAMILTON:AF/C:EMARKS:GJB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760412-0656  
**From:** STATE JOINT  
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**ISecure:** 1  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 6  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 APR 2004  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ZAIRE 1 SECRETARIES KISSINGER AND RUMSFELD HAVE DISCUSSED ALTERNATIVES AVAILABLE FOR SCOPE AND TIMING OF MIL  
**TAGS:** MASS, CG, US  
**To:** KINSHASA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006